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Federal Communications Commission
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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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FCC CONVENES FEDERAL-STATE JOINT CONFERENCE ON REGULATORY ACCOUNTING ISSUES

Joint Conference to Review Adequacy and Effectiveness of Regulatory Accounting and Related Reporting Requirements of Phone Companies

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today adopted an Order establishing a Federal-State Joint Conference on Accounting Issues. The Joint Conference will be charged with ensuring that regulatory accounting data and related information filed by telecommunications companies are adequate, truthful, and thorough.

Additionally, the Joint Conference will provide a forum for state and federal policymakers to consider, coordinate, and conduct initiatives that will ensure that the collection and exchange of regulatory accounting information is adequate and effective.

The FCC prescribes the accounting rules that govern the manner in which incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) record and allocate their costs and revenues for regulatory purposes. These rules are known as the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA). The FCC also maintains the Automated Reporting Management Information System (ARMIS), through which certain incumbent LECs are required annually to report regulatory accounting information.

The Joint Conference will begin a reexamination of federal and state regulatory accounting and related reporting requirements and make recommendations for improvements. The Joint Conference will include representatives of up to five State commissions and be chaired by the Chairman of the FCC or his designee. Any or all of the other FCC commissioners may participate in the Joint Conference.

-FCC-

Docket No.: WC 02-269

Action by the Commission August 27, 2002, by Order (FCC 02-240). Chairman Powell and Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, and Martin; with Commissioner Copps issuing a statement.

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on the Commission's web site www.fcc.gov.